

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

# Former Du-Wel Site Hartford Town Hall Meeting May 15, 2019

David Harn, Assistant District Supervisor Remediation and Redevelopment Division 517.897.0881 | harnd@michigan.gov



#### Outline

- Overview of PFAS
- Brief site history
- Results of recent PFAS testing at the Du-Wel Site
- Residential well testing
- Next steps



# Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

PFOA - perfluorooctanoic acid

- Strong carbon-fluorine bonds
- Surfactants
- Repels water, oil, fat, and grease
- Began developing in 1940s
- 5,000+ compounds today

#### **PFAS Uses**







**Apparel** 



Building and Construction



Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals



**Electronics** 



Oil & Gas



**Energy** 



Healthcare and Hospitals



Aqueous Film Forming Foam

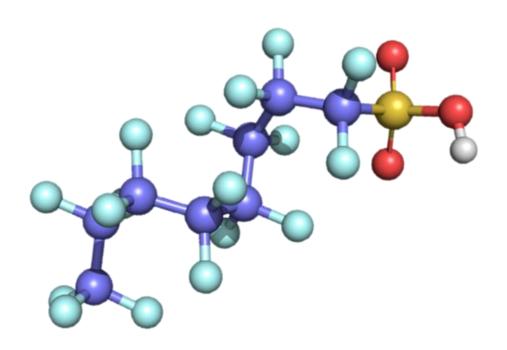


**Semiconductors** 



# Why the Concern?

- Widespread
- Don't break down easily;
  hard to get rid of
- Bioaccumulative builds up in our bodies
- Some PFAS may affect health
- Lack of information
- Lack of standards



### Site History

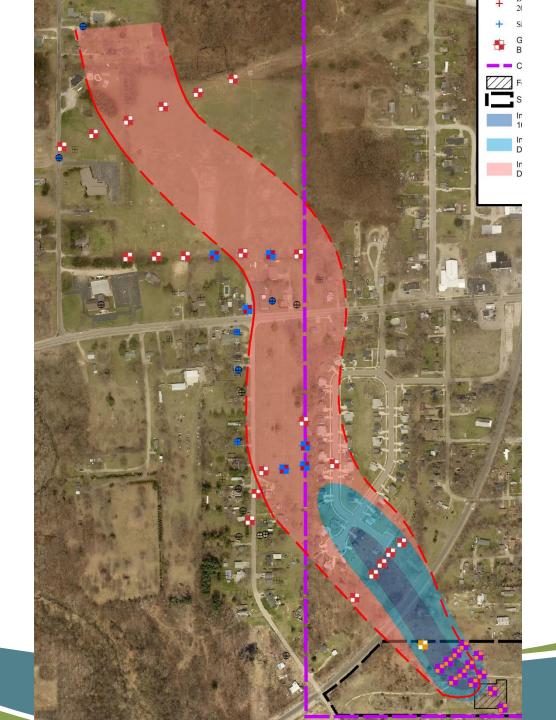
- Manufacturing facility from ~1957 to 2002
- Soil and groundwater investigations conducted by Du-Wel from 1987 to 2002
- Limited contaminated soil and plating wastes excavated in 1991 and 1992
- Company went bankrupt in 2003
- Property tax-reverted to Van Buren County



# Site History (cont)

- In 1991, contamination discovered in Gala T Inn restaurant's drinking water well
- In 1995, state funds used to extend municipal water to restaurant and two residences
- Since 2002, EGLE has been conducting statefunded investigations of soil and groundwater
- EGLE also has been testing residential wells for volatile organic compounds





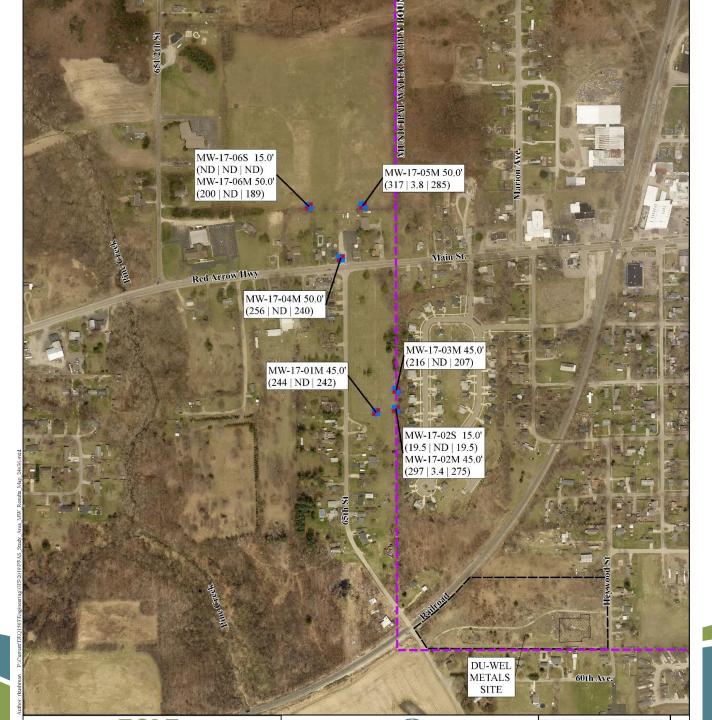
## **PFAS Sampling**

- On April 19, 2019, EGLE collected samples from 19 monitoring wells for PFAS analysis
- On May 7, 2019, results from the sampling were received
- Highest onsite PFOA + PFOS concentration was 8,713 ppt
- Highest offsite PFOA + PFOS concentration was 317 ppt

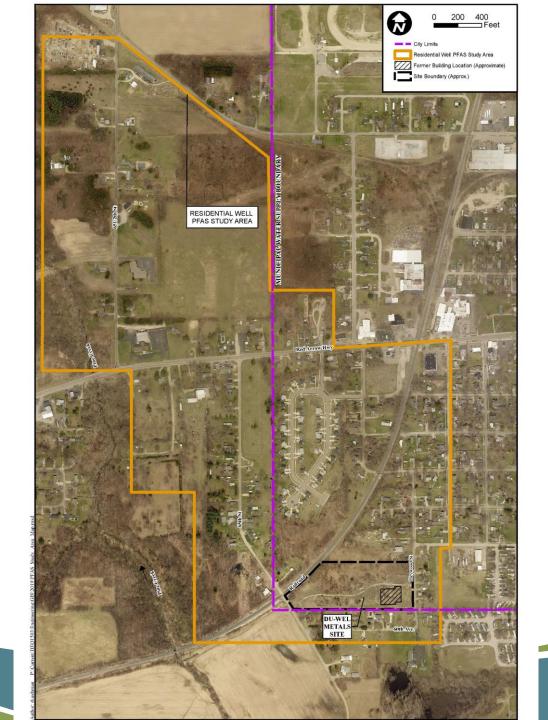








EGLE



#### **Next Steps**

- Residential well results expected beginning week of May 20<sup>th</sup>
- State and local health to call residents about results
- Bottled water distribution to continue for well owners within study area
- Departments will meet to determine next steps
- Future public meeting



#### For More Information...

Michigan.gov FAQS NEWS AND EDUCATION CONTACT MPART Q SEARCH

FAS RESPONSE

#### **TAKING ACTION, PROTECTING MICHIGAN**

HEALTH

**TESTING AND TREATMENT** 

MICHIGAN PFAS SITES

FISH AND WILDLIFE

FIREFIGHTING FOAM

ABOUT MPART



#### TAKING ACTION TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S WATER

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large group of man-made chemicals that include perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). PFAS have been used globally during the past century in manufacturing, firefighting and thousands of common household and other consumer products. These chemicals are persistent in the environment and in the human body – meaning they don't break down and they can accumulate over time. In recent years, experts have become increasingly concerned by the potential effects of high concentrations of PFAS on human health.

Although there is still more to learn about PFAS and human health, the State of Michigan takes this issue seriously and is one of the first states in the nation to establish a clean-up standard for PFAS in groundwater used for drinking water.

The Michigan PFAS Action Response Team (MPART) builds on previous work to research, identify, recommend, and implement PFAS response actions throughout the state. Agencies representing health, environment, natural resources, and other branches of state government have joined together to take action to protect Michigan's drinking water, investigate sources and locations of PFAS contamination in the state, and maintain transparency as we learn more about this nationally emerging contaminant.



www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse



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